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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No.**  
Atsushi YOSHIDA et al. : Docket No. 2005\_0020A  
Serial No. 10/521,577 : Group Art Unit  
Filed January 18, 2005 : Examiner

DEVICE LINKAGE CONTROL APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/\_\_\_\_\_; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**  
(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and  
the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

- a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or  
b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☒ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

JP 2002-082702 corresponds to U.S. 6,751,508

JP 2002-141176 corresponds to U.S. 6,713,975

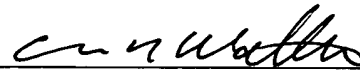
JP 2004-185607 corresponds to U.S. application Serial No. 10/527,697, which is the U.S. National stage of PCT/JP03/14297, filed November 11, 2003.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
- a. ☒ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
  - b. ☐ a foreign Search Report submitted herewith,
  - c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
  - d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
  - e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Atsushi YOSHIDA et al.

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEAPPLICANT DOCKET NO.  
2005\_0020ASERIAL NO.  
10/521,577LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)APPLICANT  
Hisashi YOSHIDA et al.

Date Submitted to PTO: August 2, 2005

FILING DATE  
January 18, 2005

GROUP

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	6,751,508	06/2004	Sasaki et al.			
	AB	6,713,975	03/2004	Yamauchi et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	AJ	2002-281574	09/2002	JP			Abstract/Partial	
	AK	06-178356	06/1994	JP			Abstract	
	AL	08-007188	01/1996	JP			Abstract	
	AM	2002-082702	03/2002	JP			Abstract	
	AN	2002-141176	05/2002	JP			Abstract	
	AO	2003-256951	09/2003	JP			Abstract	
	AP	2004-185607	07/2004	JP			Abstract	

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AQ	U.S. patent application 10/527,697, which is the U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/014297, filed November 11, 2003, Shouichi ARAKI et al.
	AR	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED